

THE NAVAJONATION



JONATHAN NEZ | PRESIDENT MYRON LIZER | VICE PRESIDENT

February 25, 2021

Ellen Wheatley, Acting Director
Office of Child Care
330 C ST SW, 4th Floor
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Ms. Wheatley,

This letter describes how the Navajo Nation Department of Child Care and Development (DCCD) plans to use the Child Care and Development Funds (CCDF) awarded under the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSA). We understand that this description will be used for the purpose of informing the Office of Child Care, Administration for Children and Families and Congress how our Lead Agency anticipates using the funds to support the child care needs in our jurisdiction.

We plan to use CRRSA funds for activities in the following categories:

1. Direct Services/Subsidies

- Use funds to pay for child care services for non-eligible CCDF children. Target families are with income that exceeds the 85% level of the State of Arizona (AZ) median income. Attached is a proposed Navajo Nation Income Matrix & CoPayment Scale. The CRRSA funds will cover the part-time and full time child care service cost and to include full copayments cost. The Income Matrix & CoPayment Scale is the cost above 85% of AZ SMI and below 450% of income threshold.

Assist Regulated and Unregulated child care providers, registered and certified Family Home, Child Home, Group Home and Center based services with funds to purchase learning supplies, janitorial/ cleaning supplies, personal protective equipment to mitigate covid-19, office supplies, utilities, and healthy food.

Assist Regulated and Unregulated child care providers to access professional development trainings. Professional Training activities may include air flight cost, registration fee, and mileage to/from training site, lodging and Per Diem rates to cover meals.

Utilize funds to secure professional trainers through contracts for child care providers to maintain compliance with DCCD Health and Safety Training Requirements.

Use funds to cover training costs for First Aid, CPR, Fire Safety and other trainings to cover certification cost.

Use funds to cover all fees related to cover federal, state, and local criminal background check for center staff and all independent child care providers, including covering cost for other adult household members.

Hire a Trainer within the DCCD to serve as onboarding trainer on some of the Health and Safety Training requirements.

Replace child care center fleet with new fleet. Purchase heavy equipment machinery to use on maintain safe condition of playground and surrounding yard of child care centers.

Hire additional staff, especially custodians to assist in daily upkeep of cleaning, sanitizing and disinfecting child care center.

Use funds for media to share with the public on information to mitigate covid-19.

2. Grants or Assistance (Other than Subsidies) to Stabilize Child Care Providers

Partnership with daycare school on Navajo Nation by supporting funds to maintain learning supplies, janitorial/ cleaning supplies, personal protective equipment to mitigate covid-19, office supplies, facility maintenance, utilities, and food.

3. Assistance to Providers Not Participating in the Subsidy System Prior to the Pandemic

- Assist potential providers to pay for their training fees for First Aid and CPR certification, Fire Safety training and to cover cost for comprehensive criminal background check,

4. Other

- Use of funds for construction related activities to cover cost for legal land survey, architectural design, building infrastructure, landscaping, parking pavements, and purchase of modular to replace depreciated modular units. Purchase new or replace playground equipment.

The Navajo Nation DCCD has not yet determined how CCDF CRRSA funds will be spent. Our timeline for deciding how funds will be spent is as follows: Upon CRRSA grant award, a timeline will be established within a two (2) month timeframe to have a budget plan with the understanding that the obligation period for use of funds will end on 09/30/22.

The Navajo Nation DCCD will amend our CCDF plan as a result of activities implemented under CRRSA funding not currently described in the plan, within 60 days of implementation.

Sincerely,
/s/

Selena B. Curley,
Delegated Program Manager
The Navajo Nation Department of Child Care and Development

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

Deannah Neswood-Gishey, Executive Director
Navajo Nation Division of Social Services

cc: Paul Noski, Regional Program Manager, Office of Child Care, Region IX
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